IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS BEAUMONT DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	§
	§
	§ CASE NUMBER 1:18-CR-102
v.	§
	§
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	§
ROBERT MILTON RILEY	§

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ON PETITION FOR WARRANT FOR OFFENDER UNDER SUPERVISION

Pending is a "Petition for Warrant or Summons for Offender Under Supervision" filed September 8, 2024, alleging that the Defendant, Robert Milton Riley, violated his conditions of supervised release. This matter is referred to the undersigned United States magistrate judge for review, hearing, and submission of a report with recommended findings of fact and conclusions of law. *See United States v. Rodriguez*, 23 F.3d 919, 920 n.1 (5th Cir. 1994); *see also* 18 U.S.C. § 3401(i) (2000); E.D. Tex. Crim. R. CR-59.

I. The Original Conviction and Sentence

Milton was sentenced on June 7, 2019, before The Honorable Marcia Crone, of the Eastern District of Texas, after pleading guilty to the offense of Possession of a Firearm by a Prohibited Person, a Class C felony. This offense carried a statutory maximum imprisonment term of 10 years. The guideline imprisonment range, based on a total offense level of 17 and a criminal history category of IV, was 37 to 46 months. Riley was subsequently sentenced to 46 months' imprisonment followed by a 3 year term of supervised release subject to the standard conditions of release, plus special conditions to include financial disclosure, treatment and

testing for substance abuse, anger management, high school equivalency certification, and a \$100 special assessment.

II. The Period of Supervision

On October 15, 2021, Riley completed his period of imprisonment and began service of the supervision term. On May 24, 2022, Riley's supervised release conditions were modified, with his consent, to include a period of home detention for 120 days with electronic monitoring. On August 16, 2022, the original term of supervised release was revoked, and Riley was sentenced to 8 months' imprisonment, which included 48 days of unserved community confinement converted to an equivalent term of imprisonment, followed by an additional 1-year term of supervised release subject to the original conditions of supervision, plus an additional special condition for participation in an inpatient drug treatment program of at least 30 days. He completed his term of imprisonment on April 7, 2023, and commenced his new term of supervised release.

III. The Petition

United States Probation filed the Petition for Warrant for Offender Under Supervision raising five allegations. The petition alleges that he violated the following conditions of release:

Allegation 1. The Defendant shall not commit another federal, state, or local crime.

<u>Allegation 2.</u> The Defendant must not own, possess, or have access to a firearm, ammunition, destructive device, or dangerous weapon.

<u>Allegation 3</u>. The Defendant shall participate in program to consists of at least 30 days inpatient drug treatment or until successful completion of the program.

<u>Allegation 4</u>. The Defendant must participate in any combination of psychiatric, psychological, or mental health treatment programs and follow the rules and regulations of that program until discharged.

<u>Allegation 5.</u> The Defendant shall pay to the United States a special assessment of \$100, which shall be due immediately.

IV. Proceedings

On October 9, 2024, the undersigned convened a hearing pursuant to Rule 32.1 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure to hear evidence and arguments on whether the Defendant violated conditions of supervised release, and the appropriate course of action for any such violations.

At the revocation hearing, counsel for the Government and the Defendant announced an agreement as to a recommended disposition regarding the revocation. The Defendant agreed to plead "true" to the first allegation that claimed he committed another federal, state, or local crime. In return, the parties agreed that he should serve a term of 12 months' imprisonment, with no supervised release to follow. The term of imprisonment shall run consecutively to Case 1:23cr105, pending in the Eastern District of Texas.

V. Principles of Analysis

According to Title 18 U.S.C. § 3583(e)(3), the court may revoke a term of supervised release and require the defendant to serve in prison all or part of the term of supervised release authorized by statute for the offense that resulted in such term of supervised release without credit for time previously served on post-release supervision, if the court, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure applicable to revocation of probation or supervised release, finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant violated a condition of supervised release, except that a defendant whose term is revoked under this paragraph may not be required to serve on any such revocation more than five years in prison if the offense that resulted in the term of supervised release is a Class A felony, more than three years if such offense is a Class B felony, more than two years in prison if such offense is a Class C or D felony, or more than one year in

any other case. The original offense of conviction was a Class C felony, therefore, the maximum imprisonment sentence is 2 years.

According to U.S.S.G. § 7B1.1(a)¹, if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the Defendant violated conditions of supervision by committing a federal, state or local crime, the Defendant will be guilty of committing a Grade B violation. U.S.S.G. § 7B1.3(a)(2) indicates that upon a finding of a Grade B violation, the court may (A) revoke probation or supervised release; or (B) extend the term of probation or supervised release and/or modify the conditions of supervision.

U.S.S.G. § 7B1.4(a) provides that in the case of revocation of supervised release based on a Grade B violation and a criminal history category of IV, the policy statement imprisonment range is 12 to 18 months.

According to U.S.S.G. § 7B1.3(f) any term of imprisonment imposed upon revocation of probation or supervised release shall be ordered to be served consecutively to any sentence of imprisonment that the defendant is serving, whether or not the sentence of imprisonment being served resulted from the conduct that is the basis of the revocation of probation or supervised release. The Defendant's agreed upon revocation sentence shall run consecutively to the sentence imposed in Case 1:23cr105, filed in the Eastern District of Texas.

In determining the Defendant's sentence, the court shall consider:

- 1. The nature and circumstance of the offense and the history and characteristics of the defendant; *see* 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(1);
- 2. The need for the sentence imposed: to afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct; to protect the public from further crimes of the defendant; and to provide the Defendant with needed educational or vocational training, medical care, other

^{1.} All of the policy statements in Chapter 7 that govern sentences imposed upon revocation of supervised release are non-binding. See U.S.S.G. Ch. 7 Pt. A; United States v. Price, 519 F. App'x 560, 562 (11th Cir. 2013).

corrective treatment in the most effective manner; see 18 U.S.C. §§ 3553 (a)(2)(B)-(D);

- 3. Applicable guidelines and policy statements issued by the Sentencing Commission, for the appropriate application of the provisions when modifying or revoking supervised release pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 994(a)(3), that are in effect on the date the defendant is sentenced; see 18 U.S.C. 3553(a)(4); see also 28 U.S.C. § 924(A)(3);
- 4. Any pertinent policy statement issued by the Sentencing Commission, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 994(a)(2), that is in effect on the date the defendant is sentenced; *see* 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(5); and
- 5. The need to avoid unwarranted sentence disparities among defendants with similar records who have been found guilty of similar conduct; *see* 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(6).
- 6. The need to provide restitution to any victims of the offense.

18 U.S.C. §§ 3583(e) and 3553(a).

VI. Application

The Defendant pled "true" to the petition's allegation that he violated a mandatory condition of release that he committed another federal, state, or local crime. Based upon the Defendant's plea of "true" to this allegation of the Petition for Warrant or Summons for Offender Under Supervision and U.S.S.G. § 7B1.1(a), the undersigned finds that the Defendant violated a condition of supervised release.

The undersigned has carefully considered each of the factors listed in 18 U.S.C. § 3583(e). The Defendant's violation is a Grade B violation, and the criminal history category is IV. The policy statement range in the Guidelines Manual is 12 to 18 months. The Defendant did not comply with the conditions of supervision and has demonstrated an unwillingness to adhere to conditions of supervision.

Consequently, incarceration appropriately addresses the Defendant's violation. The sentencing objectives of punishment, deterrence and rehabilitation along with the

aforementioned statutory sentencing factors will best be served by a prison sentence of 12

months, with no supervised release to follow.

VII. Recommendations

The court should find that the Defendant violated the first allegation in the petition by

committing a federal, state, or local crime. The petition should be granted and the Defendant's

supervised release should be revoked pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3583. The Defendant should be

sentenced to a term of 12 months' imprisonment, with no supervised release to follow. The

Defendant's agreed upon revocation sentence shall run consecutively to the sentence imposed in

Case 1:23cr105, filed in the Eastern District of Texas.

VIII. Objections

At the close of the revocation hearing, the Defendant, defense counsel, and counsel for

the government each signed a standard form waiving their right to object to the proposed

findings and recommendations contained in this report, consenting to revocation of supervised

release, and consenting to the imposition of the above sentence recommended in this report

(involving all conditions of supervised release, if applicable). The Defendant also waived his

right to be present and speak and have his counsel present and speak before the district court

imposes the recommended sentence. Therefore, the court may act on this report and

recommendation immediately.

SIGNED this 10th day of October, 2024.

Zack Hawthorn

United States Magistrate Judge